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2 March 1987

GATES - TEXT
WASHINGTON

FILE ONLY

The following is the text of a letter sent to President Reagan from Deputy
CIA Director Robert M. Gates:

It is apparent that there is strong sentiment in the Senate to await completion, at minimum, of the work of the Senate select committee on Iran before acting on my nomination. I believe a prolonged period of uncertainty would be harmful to the Central Intelligence Agency, the intelligence community and potentially to our national security. Accordingly, I respectfully request that you withdraw my nomination to be director of Central Intelligence. I am deeply honored that you chose me for this high position and I pledge my full support and assistance to whomever you select, and the Senate confirms, as the next director.